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Principles, not Men; but Men as the Representatives of Principles.

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THE POTATO.

Fair esculent, what person, saint or sinner,
But welcomes thee each day upon his table,
Especially at noon served for his dinner,
Fresh from thy bin or sheltering bed ofsable?

How would a beefsteak look without thee, facing
With thy mild eyes its blushes faint and tender?
How would it taste without thy round form gracing
The dish o'er which its savory juices wander?

With bursting sides, dry as roasted chestnut,
With fine-grained, starchy flesh—a piping plateful—
What man, though epicure he be, would haste not
To do thee ample justice and be grateful?

When dessert comes, a flaky paste or pudding,
It follows well, I grant; oftimes we need it;
But woe to it, though plums its sides are studding,
If thou dost not, fair tuber, just precede it.

Old Ireland lifts her heart each year and blesses
Thee as her friend: when corn and wine have vanished,
Thou hast relieved her wants, her sore distresses;
When, but for thee, thousands would have famished.

In rows, in hills, thy slender stems are growing;
They thrive alike in shine or partial shadow;
All through this pleasant land their green is showing
From Maine's far coast to plains of Colorado.

I, precious, healthful plant, for one, would praise thee,
Admire the flower where'er I see thee blooming
As beautiful—though common—as the daisy,
And greet thy spheres whene'er I see them coming.

Give all due praise to squashes and cucumbers,
To sugary beets, the smooth, ripe red tomato;
But, generous friend, to thee I write these numbers,
Thou stalwart commonner! thou blest potato!

About Watches.

HOW TO BUY AND TAKE CARE OF ONE TO ENSURE GOOD SATISFACTION.

The following advice may prove serviceable to those who have to rely on their own unassisted judgment in selecting a watch: First, while adhering to taste and elegance, choose a watch thick enough. In a watch too thin or too little, the parts are too feeble, and have not sufficient space to work well. Watches as large as a penny piece, or those that are about as thin as a four-penny piece, are mere experiments of skill, which should rather be regarded as masterpieces of patience, from which there is more vanity than utility to be derived. Second, avoid in watches that construction which fashion has often prescribed, but which good sense condemns—such as those that point the days of the month, and so forth. These extra pieces necessitate additional parts, which occasion friction, and increase a space already too limited; though here it may be observed that complicated watchs, such as chronographs, repeaters, etc., are now brought to a high state of perfection, at, of course, a correspondingly high cost. Third, do not allow yourself to be attracted by the supposed advantages of new escapements. In watches for ordinary purposes, the lever and the horizontal escapements are generally adopted as giving the best results. Fourth, the watchmaker who is conscientious will point out to you the limits beyond which a watch ceases to have the qualities necessary to go well. A watch procured for the design of its case may be covered or set with chasings and gems; it is then simply a jewel; but that which is bought for its utility ought to be as plain as possible, and this plainness itself is, as a rule, a distinguishing characteristic of its good quality.

We will now say a few words as to what we ought to do, and what we ought to avoid, to preserve a watch in good condition. Having obtained a really serviceable article, you should, in order to produce results, follow out these rules: Wind up your watch every day at the same hour. This is generally done at the hour we retire to rest; or perhaps, better still, at the hour we rise. Avoid putting a watch on a marble slab or near anything excessively cold. The sudden transition from heat to cold contracting the metal, may sometimes cause the mainspring to break. Indeed, the cold coagulates the oil; and the wheelwork and pivots, working less freely, affects the regularity of the timekeeper. When we lay our watch aside we ought to slope it on a watch case, so as to keep it nearly in the same position as it has in the pocket. In laying aside your watch be sure that it *rests* on its case, as by suspending it free, the action of the balance may cause oscillation, which may considerbly interfere with its going. If you would keep your watch clean, you must be quite sure that the case fits firmly, and never put it in any pocket but one made of leather. Those pockets which are lined with cloth, cotton or calico give, by the constant friction, a certain quantity of fluff, which enters most watches, even those the cases of which shut firmly. If the watch is not a "keyless" one, the key shonld be small, in order that we may feel the resistance of the stop-work; then we can stop in time without forcing anything. It is also necessary that the square of the key should correspond with that of the watch. If it be too large, it may in a short time cause the wind-up square to suffer from undue wear and tear, the rectifying of which is rather expensive. The hands of an ordinary watch can be turned backwards without much risk. It is, however, always better to move the hands forward to adjust your watch to correct time.

Watches, by reason of their fragile construction, and the variations to which they are liable, can, after all, only obtain a limited perfection in their performance; therefore we must not be astonished to find them subject to certain variations. These variations, which are easy to correct, need not prejudice the quality of a watch, as will be proved by the following example: Two watches, we will suppose, have been put to the same time by an excellent regulator. At the end of a month, one of these watches is a quarter of an hour too fast; the other is exactly right to time. To which of these two watches would we give the preference? Perhaps to the one which is exactly right. But in making such a choice, we nevertheless incur the risk of abandoning a good watch for a bad one. The first watch has, we assume, gained thirty seconds a day; and according to this rate, it has gained a quarter of an hour in thirty days. What must be done to make this watch go well? Alter the regulator inside from fast to slow, or get a careful watchmaker to do it for you, thereby altering its daily rate. Let us now admit that the other watch has been affected during a month by irregular going, which has occasioned it sometimes to gain, at other times to lose to a certain extent daily. It may easily occur that at the end of a month this gaining and losing compensate each other, and by this means the watch indicates the exact hour at the time we look at it. Such a watch can never be relied on.

The fact is, that a watch which gains in a *regular* manner or loses in a regular manner is superior to any whose variation is uncertain; and where its variation comes to be familiar, the little companion may vie with the most delicately adjusted ship's chronometer.

A skillful watchmaker one day thus reasoned with a customer who complained of his watch. "You complain," said he, "that your watch gains a minute a month. Well, then, you will congratulate yourself when you have heard me. You are aware that in your watch the balance, which is the regulator, makes five oscillations every second, which is 435,000 a day; so that your watch, exposed to all the vicissitudes which heat and cold occasion it, the varying weight of the air and the shaking to which it is subjected, has not varied more than a minute a month, or two seconds a day. It has only acquired with each vibration of the balance a variation of the 216,000th part of a second. Judge, then, what must be the extreme perfectness of this watch!"

A watch cannot go for an indefinite period without being repaired or cleaned. At the expiration of a certain time the oil dries up, dust accumulates and wear and tear are the inevitable results to the whole machinery, the functions becoming irregular and frequently ceasing to act altogether. A person possessing a watch of good quality, and desirous of preserving it as such, should have it cleaned every two years at least. But care should be taken to confide this cleaning or repairing to careful hands, an incapable workman may do great injury to a watch even of the simplest construction.

There is in the generality of watches a regulator for fast and slow, with a movable index. The two words, "Fast" and "Slow" engraved at each end of this regulator, leave no doubt as to which way the index should be moved in order to make the watch lose or gain. It is easily understood that, if the watch gain, the index should be pushed toward the slow; and when it loses, toward the fast. This operation should be performed with a good deal of care and attention, in consequence of the susceptibility and fragility of these regulating pieces. It would be impossible to give any information as to the effect existing between the degrees of this regulator and the variations of the watch; it is therefore only by trial that we can arrive at the precise point at which to bring the time to its fullest accuracy. When a watch varies only a little, we content ourselves with pushing the index one degree. We then wait twenty-four hours to judge of the effect, and act according to the result obtained. In the event of the variation being greater, for instance, than ten minutes in advance in a day, we ought to push the index to the end of the "slow," even if we have to retrace our steps the next day; but if in this state the watch gained again, it would be necessary for the watchmaker himself to undertake the regulation of it.

It would be useless to attempt to correct a variation of one or two seconds in a day or a minute in a month. Even supposing the going of such a watch did not vary more than a second a day, this would be perfect enough, as it would be extremely difficult to produce a correction sligh enough for an error so trifling. The difference of time can generally be adjusted by a comparison with mean time as registered daily in nearly every large city; or, as we have already said, if the watch be regular in its habits of irregularity, it is virtually equivalent to a perfect time-keeper.

Carving the Chicken.

THE EMBARRASSING DUTIES THAT FALL UPON THE HOST.

When at last the work of carving is done, the delicate and difficult duty of "helping" begins. There can be no peace of mind for the man who helps his family and his occasional guests to any food, except soup or oysters, both of which can be accurately and fairly divided. In the case of chicken he can never give satisfaction. There is no rule in this matter, beyond that of giving the chicken legs to the boys, which can be followed. To ask people what part of the chicken they prefer is simply madness. Either everybody tells the truth, and demands the best cut, in which case all but one will be exasperated by failing to have their wish gratified, or "everybody will reply, "any part," "it makes no difference," or words to the same mendacious and aggravating effect. Of course, when the man who says "it make no difference" is helped so anything but the breast, he becomes an enemy of the carver for life, and nothing can disabuse him of the impression that he has been wantonly insulted. It is far better to boldly help people without making any pretense of consulting their wishes. They will then regard the carver as a rude and careless host; but they will acquit him of any intention to press open insults on his guests. Perhaps the most difficult person to deal with is the lady who says she "prefers a leg." In the presence of this most trying person the carver is almost certain to make a mistake. The chances are that she abhors chicken legs, and expresses, for the sake of politeness, an alleged preference which she confidently expects to be disregarded. To help such a one to a leg is to abuse her confidence and secure her undying hatred. On the other hand, if she is one of those rare women who really have an abnormal fondness for legs, she feels herself outraged if legs are withheld from her, and decides that the carver is a selfish brute, who has not sufficient decency to respect a lady's wishes. We shall never know how many happy homes have been broken up, how many friends estranged, and how much miscellaneous misery has been suffered merely because the duty of carving has been placed in the hands of the fathers of American families.

An experiment was made with a number of horses in Paris in 1776. The following results were obtained: 1. It was proved beyond all doubt that a horse can hold out for twenty-five days without any solid nourishment, provided it is supplied with sufficient and good drinking water. 2. A horse can barely hold out for five days without water. 3. If a horse is well fed for ten days, but insufficiently provided with water during the same period, it will not outlive the eleventh day. One horse, from which water had been entirely withheld for three days, drank on the fourth day sixty litres of water within three minutes. A horse which received no solid nourishment for twelve days was, nevertheless, in a condition on the twelfth day to draw a heavy load.

SMALL GREATNESS.

BY LE DUKE.

Of all human frailties, vindictiveness is the most unmanly. By vindictiveness I do not mean the ordinary and oft-times justifiable disposition to retaliate. Retaliation, though not a cardinal element of true manhood, may frequently be used to further the ends of real greatness. But there is a *decided* difference between vindictiveness and retaliation, for while the former seeks to *injure*, the latter contemplates the assertion and proof of equal power and equal independence merely. There is nothing particularly grovelling in retaliation; but revenge is an institution of the devil and its presence and development in a man or woman offer sufficient reason to sustain a *prima facie* case against said man or woman. Whenever you find a vindictive man you need not dig down very far into the rubbish of human frailties to find the positive evidence of a *mean* man—mean by *instinct* and *motive*. Great men are never vindictive, in the sense in which I use the term. Small men can never be great. The motive of true greatness is a desire to keep, not to injure men. Now there are men in our community who have been indulging the foolish notion that they are great characters. They have (some of them) been to school and built themselves an intellectual sort of defense, constructed of soft intellectual brick and mortar and trimmed with a grotesque array of ologies and isms; and they stand within their towers of egotism and think that they are very great. This they do, all unconscious of the fact that the world knows or cares little or nothing about them. Within the past few weeks, I have had an opportunity to see the prodigious meaness and microscopic greatness of some of our *would-be* leaders and great (?) men. This convention fracas has done more for the people than can well be appreciated. It has drawn out the true character of men whose cussedness was bidden behind a smiling countenance. It has given us an approximate notion of the envy, the shameless arrogance, the brass-mounted cheek, "the unmittigated gall" and the utter disregard for the welfare of the people, which possess some of our cranky *would be* leaders. Men who were successful in the convention business, gloated in their success and bragged that they were now leaders indeed, while the defeated men put their heads together in order to find the surest means of *satisfying* their *revenge*. Some cried fraud, some one thing and another and (I blush to say it) some sought revenge by the most unmanly methods. They strove to injure not only the *particular* antagonist but desired to injure all those who depended upon him for support. The man went so far as to *request* the removal of another, whose only crime had been that he was on the opposite side of a political fight. He crawled and smiled and fawned in the presence of a Secretary and a Bureau officer and whined for the removal of one who is at least his equal in all that pertains to true manhood. What think you of a man who would satisfy his revenge by striking at the happiness of women and children? Of course this man will not succeed in accomplishing his purposes, but what think you would be the weight of such a man when placed in the scale of greatness? Why, he would not outweigh a feather. It is bad enough for men to wrangle and insult each other—even *that* is disgraceful and injurious to our prospects as a race—but when men go so far as to strike a man's substance and that of his family it is high time for the colored people, to begin to inquire as to whether these men should not be sent to the rear. It may not be well to call the names of the man or men who would be *great in destruction*, but if the matter does not end very soon, Le Duke will treat the public to a bit of gossip that will resurrect all the old maids, and *other* scandal-mongers for miles around.

Every Man the Architect of his Own Fortune.

Every man, in a certain sense of the word, is the architect of his own fortune, whether it be a good or a bad one. An ambitious and energetic man, when he finds that he must shift for himself, will immediately choose one of the many stations in life with which he is surrounded, and give to it his whole attention and care. It is true, that at first the prospects of acquiring a speedy fortune may not be very flattering; yet he will preservere in his undertaking, whatever it may be, with hopes of better success in the future. By so doing he will, in a very short time, perceive with delight that his prospects are assuming a brighter and more cheering aspect. This inspires him with fresh courage, and urges him to toil the harder until his efforts are crowned with success. He will then be able to say, and can say so with pleasure to himself. "I am the architect of my own fortune."

On the other hand, we behold the man who is always waiting either for better times, or for something to turn up, as he terms it. Such a man as he will never be the architect of anything more than that of a very bad fortune. He has a superabundance of hired help to manage his business for him, while he busies his brains about politics, etc., and never gives even as much as a single thonght to his business. As the case generally is, the management of the hired help does not prove to be very profitable. They do not devote the proper attention to it, and, the business being thus neglected, there is in a very short time comparatively nothing left but the wreck of an undertaking which, if properly managed, would have been the source of wealth. From constantly disbursing more capital—in trying to keep up the business—than he receives, the proprietor is soon on the verge of bankruptcy. The crisis comes, and he is penniless. Who is the architect of this fortune? No one but the proprietor himself: for his want of attention, ambition, and a determination to succeed. And, after failure, such men seldom have sufficient energy and self-reliance to begin again, even with the knowledge that their bitter experience would prove a wholesome lesson, and enable them to avoid the rock upon which they had been ship-wrecked.

What is Nickel?

Since the convenient 5-cent coin which in common talk is called "a nickel" has come into general circulation, the question above is asked either mentally or orally hundreds of times every day, and but few get an intelligent answer. In China and India, a white copper, called pack tong, has long been known and has been extensively used both there and in Europe for conterfeiting silver coin. About the year 1700 a peculiar ore was discovered in the copper mines of Saxony which had the appearance of being very rich, but in smelting it yielded no copper, and the miners called it kupfer-nickel, or false copper. In 1754, Cronstadt announced the discovery of a new metal in Kupfer-Nickel, to which he gave the name of nickel. It was in combination with arsenic from which he could relieve it only in parts. The alloy of nickel and arsenic which he obtained was white, brittle and very hard and had a melting point nearly as high as cast-iron. It was not until 1823 that pure nickel was obtained by analysis of German silver, which had for a number of years been produced at Suhl in Saxony. Its composition was ascertained to be copper 10 parts, zinc 5, and nickel 4. If more nickel be used the alloy is as white as silver and susceptible of a very high polish, but becomes too brittle and hard to be hammered or rolled, and can be worked only by casting. Pure nickel is a white metal which tarnishes readily in the air. Unlike silver, it is not acted on by the vapor of sulphur, and even the strong mineral acids attract it but slightly. Nickel has the hardness of iron, and like it, has strong magnetic properties, but can not be welded and is soldered with difficulty. Pure nickel has heretofore been used chiefly for plating, for which purpose its hardness and power to resist atmospheric influences admirably adapt it. Within the last year the French have succeeded in rolling the metal into plates, from which spoons and other table furniture may be pressed. Nickel bronze, which consists of equal parts of copper and nickel, with a little tin, may be cast into very delicate forms, and is susceptible of a high polish. Mines of nickel are worked at Chatham, Conn., and Lancaster, Pa., and it is said to be found at Mine Le Motte, Mo., and at several points in Colorado, and New Mexico, where but little attention is paid to it. It is extensively mined in Saxony and in Sweden, but the late discovery of a new ore (a silicate of nickel) in New Caledonia will probably suspend the use of the arsenical ores, and yet bring nickel into common use. Switzerland, in the year 1852, made a coin of German silver, which is identical in composition with our nickel coin. The United States made nickel cents in 1856, and eight years later coined the 5-cent pieces. Belgium adopted nickel coinage in 1860 and Germany in 1873. England has lately coined pennies for Jamaica, but at home she and France adhere to the clumsy copper small change.

To Young Men.

The true girl has to be sought for. She does not parade herself as show goods. She is not fashionable. Generally, she is not rich. But oh, what a heart she has when you find her! So large and pure and womanly. When you see it you wonder if those showy things outside were women. If you gain her love, your two thousand are millions. She'll not ask you for a carriage or a first-class house. She'll wear simple dresses, and turn them when necessary, with no vulgar magnificat to frown upon her ceremony. She'll keep everything neat and nice in your sky parlor, and give you such a welcome when you come home that you'll think your parlor highes than ever. She'll entertain true friends or a dollar, and astonish you with the new thought how little happiness depends on money. She'll make you love home (if you don't you're a brute,) and teach you how to pity while you scorn a poor, fashionable society that thinks itself rich, and vainly tries to think itself happy. Now do not, I pray you, say any more, "I can afford to marry." Go, find the true woman, and you can. Throw away that cigar burn that switch cane, be sensible yourself, and seek your wife in a sensible way —[Oliver Wendell Holmes.

The Four-Corners Store.

It was invented soon after the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers, and it has been enlarged and improved every year since. There is nothing like it—except another about four miles west. The store at the corners or cross-roads is a Yankee idea, run on Yankee principles, and never flourishes outside of Yankeedom.

From the exterior the four corners store appears neither romantic nor ornamental. It was planned by an humble architect, and whenever more room has been required, additions have been erected with more regard to "pitch" than plan. The row of solid hitching-posts in front is more to customers than ornamental cornice, and it is only once in a great while that any one is found mean enough to criticise the orthography of the sign at the door, reading:

HIEST CASH PRIZE FOR

Butter,	Eggs,	Beaswax,
Hides,	Pelts,	Lard,
Honney,	Talow,	And so Fourth.

The interior of the store is a museum and more. Nail-kegs and tea-chests sit side by side—flat-irons and straw hats are piled together—ox-yokes and bird-cages and grind-stones and trace-chains and boys' boots and bolts of factory can be fished out of the same heap. Dry goods, groceries, hardware, wooden-ware, boots and shoes, yankee-notions and willow-ware are packed beneath the one roof, and after the first year the store is made a post-office and a drug-store. The proprietor does not advertise: "Prescriptions carefully compounded day or night," but he has the necessary confidence to deal in salts, porous plasters, pills, patent tonics, dyes, indigo, copperas, logwood, quinine and cough medicines, and he makes no mistakes. He is a packer of eggs and butter; he is a fur and hide-buyer; he is a shipper to commission houses; he is a judge of leather and can warrant shawls and dress goods; he stands next to the doctor in prescribing for rheumatics, and is head and shoulders above any other man on postal statistics. And if all this does not produce a feeling of awe, be it known that he has actually "been down East for goods"—yes, sir, bought goods right on Broadway in New York, and "was treated like a perfect gentleman." He has a little world of his own. He is constantly revolving from pitchforks to delaine, and from mowing-machines to pins and needles. His day begins with a call for three nutmegs or a card of shirt-buttons, and closes with a sale of a calico dress, but in the interval he has sent to farm houses for miles around hats, shawls, shoes, groceries, butter-bowls, chopping-knives, apple-pearers, jugs, jars, door-locks, window-glass, paint, putty, cutlery, crockery, and most everything else not made for special use on the high seas. All this besides his weather predictions, his estimate on the wheat-crop, his opinion of the political situation, and his vivid descriptions of his down East journey. Some men are born to command great armies; others were created for a higher sphere, and they establish a four-corners store and rule whole counties.—*Detroit Press.*

Bread Making in Spain.

The bread in the south of Spain is delicious; it is white as snow, close as cake, and yet very light; the flour is most admirable, for the wheat is good and pure, and the bread well kneaded. The way they make this bread is as follows: From large long panniers filled with wheat they take out a handful at a time, sorting it most carefully and expeditiously, and throwing every imperfect grain into another basket. This done, the wheat is ground between two circular stones, as it was ground in Egypt two thousand years ago, the requisite rotary motion being given by a blindfolded mule, which paces around and around with untiring patience. a bell being attached to his neck, which, as long as he is in movement, tinkles on; and when it stops he is urged on to his duty by the shout of "arra mula" from some one within hearing. When ground, the wheat is sifted through three sieves, the last of these being so fine that only the pure flour can pass through it; this is of a pure apricot color. The bread is made in the evening. It is mixed with sufficient water, with a little salt in it, to make into dough. A very small quantity of leaven or yeast in one batch of household bread, as in Spain, would last a week for the six or eight donkey loads of bread they send every day from their oven. The dough made, it is put into sacks and carried on donkeys' backs to the oven in the center of the village, to bake it immediately after kneading. On arriving there the dough is divided into portions weighing about three pounds each. Two long, narrow, wooden tables on trestles are then placed down the room, and a curious sight may be seen. About twenty men, bakers, come in and range themselves on one side of the table. A lump of dough is handed to the nearest, which he begins kneading and knocking about with all his might for about three or four minutes, and then passes it on to his neighbor, who does the same, and so on successively until all have kneaded it, when it becomes soft as new putty and ready for the oven. Of course, as soon as the first baker has handed the lump to his neighbor, another lump is given to him, and so on until the whole quantity of dough is kneaded by them all. The bakers' wives and daughters shape the loaves for the oven, and some of them are very small. They are baked immediately.

TEST OF DEATH.—According to the London Medical Press, those timid beings who are haunted by apprehension of being buried alive, and who make testamentary provisions against such contingency, may now take courage, for science has supplied an infallible means of determining whether or not the vital spark has quitted the mortal frame. Electricity enables us to distinguish with absolute certainty between life and death, for two or three hours after the stoppage of the heart the whole of the muscles of the body have completely lost their electric excitability. When stimulated by electricity they no longer contract. If, then, when Faradism, as the treatment with induced currents of electricity for remedial purposes is called, is applied to the muscles of the limbs and trunk, say five or six hours after supposed death, there be no contractile response, it may be certified with cestainty that death has occured; for no mint, nor trance, nor coma, however deep, can prevent the manifestation of electric muscular contractility. Here there is no possibility of mistake, as there certainly was when the old tests were employed.

SCRUB UP.

BY ARGUS.

Last week Le Duke assumed the delicate task of "sizing up" the new trustees. She evinced a cleverness of style and disposition which is to be wondered at because of the absence of gossip. I agree with Le Duke should have given others, besides Dr. Purvis, the credit of entertaining sound views. It is safe to say that the whole board, in its present character, favor the mixing of the above named schools. But Le Duke should have spoken of Commissioner Edmonds who, I am informed has expressed himself pretty freely on the subject of mixing the schools. He does not see the use in keeping the school seperated anyhow. But while he admits this, he does not positively favor the experiment of mixing them. He has gone so far as to say, however, that he would have no objection to sending his child to a colored school, *if the children were clean.* He doubtless does not mean by this that the colored children, as a whole, are dirty; but merely insists upon that as a condition of his endorsement of a mixed system. He knows very well that school childrendon't generally stickle on cleanliness and he knows too that unless the parents and teachers insist upon having the children appear at school in a cleanly manner there is little hope of having cleanliness among them. There is a remote probability that the white people don't think that the colored children are quite as clean as their own. This they gather from the appearance of the children as they go to and from school, contrasted with their own children, or else they come to the conclusion that the colored children are not quite so clean because the colored teachers do not take that lively intrrest in the children that they should. It is probable that they are right from both standpoints. The colored children in some localities do look tough ragged and dirty—and the teachers do not take that interest in seeing that the scholars are kept clean, that they should. So thht Mr. Edmunds is not to be to severely censured for not objecting to send his children to a colored school, if the colored children are clean, any more thau the colored people should not be censured for objecting to sending their children to a white school where the white children are dirty. Mr. Edmunds is like a great many other white men who don't know much about the coiored people. They think they are not clean. There may be some grounds for this and the teachers should do all in their power to remove that objection for the sake of decency.

Food for Thought.

Never judge by appearances. A seedy coat may cover a heart in full bloom.

The gout may be said to be a beacon on the rock of luxury to warn us against it.

The sublimity of wisdom is to do those things living which are desired to be done when dying.

It is no vanity for a man to pride himself on what he has honestly got and prudently uses.

Let him who regrets the loss of time make proper use of that which is to come in the future.

Ideas generate ideas; like a potato, which, cut in pieces, reproduces itself in a multiplied form.

To endeavor to work upon the vulgar with fine sense is like attempting to hew a block of marble with a razor.

Happiness is like a sunbeam, which the least shadow intercepts, while adversity is often as the rain of spring.

Do that which is right. The respect of mankind will follow; or, if it do not, you will be able to do without it.

A wise man ought to hope for the best, be prepared for the worst, and bear with equanimity whatever may happen.

Of all the actions of man's life, his marriage does least concern other people, yet of all the actions of our lives it is most meddled with by other people.

Flattery is the hocus-pocus nonsense with which our ears are cajoled, in order that we may be more effectually bamboozled and deceived.

The deadliest foe to man's longevity is an unnatural and unreasonable excitement. Every man is born with a certain stock of vitality, which can not be increased, but which may be husbanded or expended rapidly, as he deems best.

Within certain limits, he has his choice to live fast or slow, to live abstemiously or intensely; to draw his little amount of life over a large space, or to condense it into a narrow one; but when his stock is expended he can have no more.

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THE PHARISAIC "GLOBE."

IN the absence of anything better the *Globe* replies to what we had to say relative to its flippant criticism of the Government Printer, by making a very flattering contrast between itself, "interrified and unsubsidized" and the two colored papers here, one mission of which, according to its self-complacency, is the guardianship of "the republican" big guns who dole out fish bones to colored people."

Of course there is much in this self-exaltation of the *Globe* after the "stand aside, I am holier than thou" order. To this we make no complaint. We do not envy or emulate it in this respect.

"Paroxysms of landation," which, by the way, we never before knew ourselves to be guilty of, may indeed "seem strange to newspaper men who habitually measure a man at his exact size and not at a size fabulous and grotesque"; but this certainly not refer to the *Globe*, for, there is about as much unreliability in its utterances, as much deceit, as much inconsistency, as much inexcusable ignorance displayed, even in its editorial columns, as it has been our lot to find in many another paper of less reputation.

The *Globe* may find out, some of these days, that it is just as likely to err now about the present Government Printer—a business man, who has never before held any public office—as it did about Clapp; or as it did about Senator Mahone whom it denounced in unmeasured terms as "a boss," a little more than a year ago, although he has but followed out the course then outlined.

It may surprise the *Globe* for us to say that while no administration has come up to our idea of doing equal and exact justice to the Negro, there are exceptional cases of individual officers who have come so near the mark that they not only deserve "honorable mention" but manly defense from wanton attacks, whether made under cover by individuals whose personal disappointments afford opportunity for manifestation of sudden devotion and solicitude for the interest in the race, or by a press which though "subsidized or unterrified" acknowledges no motive but inclination, no purpose but an ambition to gain an ephemeral notoriety; to be sensational or hypercritical.

We do not expect men in office to be better than they are out of it, and white men, even though they be republicans, to be much more zealous to promote colored men *when in office*, than the average white "friend of the Negro" is in *private station*. The stream can not rise above the source.

We do not believe in regarding every white office holder who has patronage at his disposal, as a rascal or as one who has attempted to corrupt the colored vote. That is the New York *Sun* way of regarding white republicans and the *Globe* ought to take an original and common sense view, looking "at the situation" as it really is—in fact "as we find it."

THE STRIKE.

THE strike of the telegraph operators throughout the country, thus far has been the most, extensive and the most successful strike unaccompanied by demonstration of force. It is one which shows by the paralyzed condition of the companies doing a telegraph business, and the varied interests affected thereby, how imperative is the necessity of the telegraph in the business circles of to day.

The organization of the operators was so complete, the discipline so perfect, and the fidelity so true, that at an instant hundreds of instruments ceased their click, and corporations which have declared handsome dividends on millions of watered stock, not withstanding their gigantic wealth, find themselves at once confronted with a vexatious problem demanding prompt solution. They need skilled labor. The supply is necessarily limited, and their business interests can not be put in jeopardy by incompetent employes. The public has little patience with powerful corperations who water their stock like the Western Union, by several millions, and do not pay living wages to its laborers. If the operators hold out, as it now seems probable, the companies must come to terms, or encounter a rival in new syndicates to which the wage laborers will be no inconsiderable element. Those who are aware of the silent revolution being effected, in the labor question, will do well to note the different stages in the progress of this conflict between capitalist on the one hand and the skilled labor on the other. Our sympathies go out to the operators. May they succeed.

BUT it was not contemplated by the by the projectors of the Louisville Convention that it should be a conveution of politicians as such; the idea of politics pure and simple, seemed to be a minor consideration. Education and labor business enterprises were the weightier matters to be considered,—matters about which the ordinary political bummer knows little and cares less. All over the country these matters are demanding and receiving the attention of thoughtful colored men, and a convention of these men, wisely conducted, will produce the results anticipated and secure the ends desired.—Edwin in the Detroit *Plaindealer*.

ONE of the greatest shocks in religious circles is the announcement of the demise of the Rev. Dr. W. H. Griffiths, recently appointed to the Albany A. M. E. Church, so close upon the eve of his suspension, trial for slander, and his subsequent retraction. On the face it would appear that he was in the wrong but in view of all the circumstancies of the case, we believe him to have been the victim of jealousy.

THE report as frequently repeated that there are two hundred hundred colored papers published in this country, we do not think well founded. We think it will puzzle any one to enumerate one hundred now in existence. We would like to have the matter settled. There are in the District of Columbia, two, THE ADVOCATE and the *Bee*.

THE *American Baptist* thinks the amended call for the convention should now be issued. We think it is not now needed, for several conventions have met and elected their delegates. Let the *Baptist* give needed information by stating what are those reduced railroad rates which are to prevail during the holding of the Exposition.

THE article by Rev. W. J. Simmons will no doubt be eagerly read. We think before he is through with the matter he will find that he presumed a little too much on the lack of common sense of the people in this locality who do not endorse Rev. G. M. P. King. But Rev. Brooks is able to take care of himself.

RECEIVED a copy of the proceedings of the Supreme Lodge of Knights of Pythea's of N. A., S. A., E., A. and A., the special session of which was held at Vicksburg, Miss., May 10th, 11th and 12th.

The order has now two grand lodges and is firmly planted in fourteen States.

WHEN Atlanta happens to have a teacher in Washington City or any place that can't take care of his job after he gets it, then turn him out and make room for others.—*Vindicator*. Whom is Bro. Pledger after.

WE sympathize with Bro. Wright of the *Defense* in the loss he has just sustained by the death of his mother.

THE Weekly Review of Springfield, Ohio, has bought out a daily paper.

Miss Nall's Reply.

Editor of the Advocate,

DEAR SIR:—For the benefit of the public in general, and the parents of the Eighth Grade pupils in particular, I wish to state: that neither Miss Patterson nor any other teacher, Mr. Johnson nor any other trustee, had any thing to do with the "cramming" I have comenced, and purpose finishing, this summer, if nothing prevents.

I was requested by the parents of several pupils of the Eighth Grade to review them, (the pupils), in their studies of the previous year, during the summer; they had been to see Mr Cook, and he told them the pupils who studied might have another examination for admission to the High School, in the fall; the request came from two or three persons, at first, then others hearing of the proposed class requested me to take their children; I informed all who came, that I had no objection to admitting any pupil of that grade, who purposed studying earnestly, to the class, no matter in what section of the city he or she resides.

I did not advertise for pupils, but allowed all who applied to enter the class. I am much obliged for the very liberal advertisement I received last week in the columns of the most noted newspaper of the day; although not couched in the exact language of a regular advertisement, it had a similar effect, as my class has been augmented since it was published, and my scanty exchequer thereby greatly increased.

As far as the health of the children is concerned, most of the girls recuperate by washing dishes, and by doing other house work; the boys, by working whenever they may obtain a job.

It is an established fact that it is not the rule for our people to send their children away during the vacation months. This summer they have the double advantage of sending them to school three ttmes a week; and, of allowing them to wash dishes etc. the remainder of the time.

For further information concerning the physical condition of my pupils, I respectfully refer the writer of the article in the before mentioned most noted newspaper to the parents of the pupils.

In addition, allow me to state that I have always felt perfectly at liberty to decide for myself, without convening a congress, the answer I should make to any request made of me. If I make a mistake in my reply, I hope some friend will point out the error, and I will certainly profit thereby.

To the writer of the article, I wish to say: Please do not grudge me the enormous compensation I receive for my work; please try to encourage our pupils when they show any laudable ambition; don't dishearten them by bringing before their gaze an array of incompetent public teachers, horrible trustees, avaricious and incompetent private tutorises, rings, crushing editorials etc. etc. etc..

I wish the writer of the "cramming" article had paid me a visit showing me that he felt interested in my class, he might then have finished the portion of the paper his article occupied with something both agreeable and instructive; and he would not have shown his innate venom by striking at Mr. Johnson because he is "out", and at me because Providence lavished upon me a *pretty* strong constitution, and at the same time a *very* empty pocketbook.

Don't write any more articles like that one; your talent might be utilized tn cutting some scraps of good prose or of poetry upon sensible subjects, as "Good-will", "Hope", "Justice" etc., acd publishing them. It doesn't do any good to arouse ill feeling when there is no necessity for it.

Allow me to "cram" in peace.

MARY NALLE.

Diphtheria and Milk.

In his last annual report on Bradford, England, Mr. Harris Butterfield records certain cases of diphtheria which, with great show of probability, he attributes to the use of infected milk. The child of a milk dealer was taken ill with a sore throat on August 18; on August 31 another child of the dealer and the servant of a family living some way off were attacked with diphtheria, and on September 9 four cases, in three separate houses (one at the house where the servant was lying,) were recognized. The houses were not in bad sanitary condition, and there had been no communication between the families. The only circumstance common to all was that they obtained their milk supply from the dealer whose children were sick with the disease. Mr. Butteifield thinks it probable that, on two occasons, at least, the milk was infected with the poison of diphtheria. On the occasion of his visit, the milk cans (which were rather dirty) had not been cleaned at half-past eleven in the morning. They were kept in a scullery or washkitchen in which was a sink with an untrapped pipe. Under this sink was a chamber utensil containing excreta. Near the milk cans was a wash tub half full of dirty water, and resting on the milk cans were two bundles of dirty linen from the bed and person of a child found ill in bed with unmistakable diphtheria. The milk supply from the farm was, of course, at once stopped, but not before another child, who had partaken of the milk and occasionally visited the farm, had become infected. This last case died, as also did the mother, who contracted the infection while nursing the child.

A number of scientists are puzzling their brains over the question whether or not the South American continent is sinking, and naturally enough a considerable difference of opinion exists among them. From the barometric observations of the principal mountains in that region of territory, which have been continued through more than a hundred years, evidence is afforded of a gradual sinking, and this opinion is said to prevail extensively. There are some, however, who, founding their theory on a comparison of observations made at the mouths of rivers, are equally enthusiastic in the belief that the land is rising.

Walter H. Brooks Answered

I do not attempt to play the part of an apologist for Prof. G. M. P. King, Pres. of Wayland Seminary, Washington D. C but to caution all those who write about these affairs. Now there is one way out of this difficulty, that is, if you don't like a school don't patronize it. No matter what you say or do, the school will go on. The colored people put but little money in it, and for years will continue to do so. If this was a political matter men would have gorne in delegations from Orgen or Florida to lay their grievances before the President, now why don't the Rev. W. H. Brooks and others who make newspaper war which only stirs up ill will among the colored people and never reaches the eyes of the higher authenties, get up a delegation and visit New York and state the matter to Dr. H. F. Morehouse, the secretary, or to the Board of the American Baptist Home Mission Society. When we want help from this Society we can approach them mildly, but when we don't like something we stand off and poke them with a long stick. I am for my people and am not afraid to be for them, yet I know that corporations will not be *driven* by the people who get all the benefits, and pay little or nothing for them. I state from positive knowledge that the colored people are not able to support the schools now maintained in the South. If they are, it is quite a different thing from doing. Rev. Brooks says: "I hope that the proper thing may be done in this case, and the era of good feeling restored. But if the proper thing is not done, we, like our brethren in the African M. E. Church, must rise and build, and take the management of our own schools. This is what the issue will be, if the proper thing is not done, and the God who has done so much for us in the past will not permit the work to fail." Does he not know that if our brethren *rise*, that most of them will sit down again? Then does he not know that the African M. E. Church, even at Wilberforce University about sixteen years old, is not now able to have a full corps of teachers? Does he not know that God will not do as he has done, except we deserve it? Don't injure the work in twelve states by injudiciously thumping Pres. King through the *newspapers*. Go to headquarters, and respectfully ask a hearing, and only when all efforts of that kind fail would you be justified in talking. Do not strain at gnats and swallow camels. Don't for want of discretion destroy our friends interests in us, by biting off more than we can chew. Don't make our people believe that we can run all these school, for we cant. If we are able, let us do it of our own accord, and not wait till madness drives us on. Then, as Baptist, we should be cautious how we throw confusion in our own ranks to the benefit of those who are not Baptists. We apologize to no one, and for no one, but only wish to throw oil on the waters. We have seen nowhere that the steps we advise have been taken: if they have then they should be as well known as the troubles which have been industriously circulated. As for me, I am prepared to suffer some ills, than tear down the Schools of the Home Mission. To do so would be a crime. The great good they do overbalance the evil.

Let us remember that whom the God's woul l destroy they first make mad.

WM. J. SIMMONS,
PRES. KENTUCKY INSTITUTE,
Louisville, Ky..

An Interview with ex-Senator Bruce.

THE ADVOCATE man while strolling around in search of dots, thought it profitable to stop at the Arlington to see what was in the wind, politically. He had scarcely entered, when to his great satisfaction, he met ex-Senator Bruce, who always has a hearty grip, and instructive news for his friends. He had been on business and his conversation naturally touched upon politics. Our man, assuming an air of importance, such as only newspaper men can assume, sandwiched in "Senator what do you think of the situation in Ohio"?

"I think," said the Senator, "that Ohio will be carried by the Republicans, without a doubt. The situation in that state has assumed phases which are particularly favorable to the Republicans The recent decision of the Supreme Court of the State upon the constitutionality of the Scott law, has caused a reaction of sentiment on the liquor question, the effect of which will be to divert the public mind from that question. That question will therefore be one which, while it may enter to some degree into the canvass, will not become the leading issue, as it has heretofore been".

"Well, how about Pensylvania?"

"As for that state, it is generally conceded that she will roll up a handsome mojority for the Republicans."

"What do you think of the chances of secureing the electoral vote of Virginia for the republicans in 1884?"

"From present indications, we have every reason to look to that state for material support in 1884. The movement inaugurated by Mr. Mahone is one which is calculated to split the bourbon organization, and secure to the colored people the means of exercising their elective privileges to the bettering of their conditions. Upon such movements must we depend for full political freedom."

"You are then, in favor of these liberal movements?"

"Most decidedly, when they are conducted upon sound principles and by honest men."

"Is it probable that any other Southern state besides Virginia, will be carried for the Republicans in 1884?"

"It is highly probable that both North Carolina, and Florida will be brought into line by 1884, if harmony is maintained among republican leaders and every man does hes duty at the polls."

The Senator wisely withheld his opinion on the probable candidates for the presidency, but said that whoever was nominated would be elected. He said that he was confident that the republican party could go to the country npon the tariff issue and by sustaining its position in favor of protection, carry the country by a sweeping majority. Our man then asked,

"Will you take part in the campaign this fall?"

"I have received a very cordial and pressing invitation to take part in the canvass, and I have no doubt but that I will accept it. I am *now* too much engrossed in official matters to enter the campaign but on or about the first of September I shall enter actively into the canvass. I shall make a dozen or two speeches and do whatever else in my power to elect Judge Foreaker."

The Senator showing signs of restlessness, the ADVOCATE man bade him good night, chuckling to himself that he had been so highly entertained by so distinguished a man.

On Thirty Days' Trial.

The Voltaic Belt Co., Marshall, Mich., will send Dr. Dye's Celebrated Electro-Voltaic Belts and Electric Appliances on trial for thirty days to men (young or old) who are afflicted with nervous debility lost vitality and kindred troubles, guaranteeing speedy and complete restoration of health and manly vigor. Address as above. N. B.—No risk is incurred, as thirty days' trial is allowed.

How a Beautiful Hymn was Written.

There is an interesting incident mentioned in the life of Charles Wesley, which led to the writing of one of his sweet hymns:

One day Mr. Wesley was sitting by an open window, looking out over the beautiful fields in summer time. Just then a hawk came sweeping down toward a little bird. The poor thing, very much frightened, was darting here and there, trying to find some place of refuge. In the bright, sunny air, in the leafy trees, or the green fields, there was no hiding place from the fierce grasp of the hawk. But, seeing the open window, and the man sitting by it, the bird flew in its terror toward it, and with a beating heart and quivering wing found refuge in Mr. Wesley's bosom. He sheltered it from the threatening danger, and saved it from a cruel death. Mr. Wesley was at the time suffering severe trials, and was feeling the need of a refuge in his own time of trouble as much as the trembling little bird did, that nestled in his bosom. So he took up his pen and wrote the hymn:

"Jesus, Savior of my soul,
Let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the waves of trouble roll,
While the tempest still is high."

To Get Rid of Cockroaches.

A correspondent writes as follows: "I beg to forward you an easy, clean and certain method of eradicating these loathsome insects from dwelling-houses. A few years ago my house was infested with cockroaches (or 'clocks' as they are called here,) and I was recommended to try cucumber peelings as a remedy. I accordingly, immediately before bed-time, strewed the floor of those parts of the house most infested with the vermin with the green peel, cut not very thin from the cucumber, and sit up half an hour later than usual to watch the effect. Before the expiration of that time, the floor where the peel lay was completely covered with cockroaches, so much so, that the vegetable could not be seen, so voraciously were they engaged in sucking the poisonous moisture from it. I adopted the same plan the following night, but my visitors were not near so numerous—I should think not more than a fourth of the previous night. On the third night I did not discover one; but anxious to ascertain whether the house was quite clear of them, I examined the peel after I had laid it down about half an hour, and perceived that it was covered with myriads of minute cockroaches, about the size of a flea. I therefore allowed the peel to lie till morning, and from that moment I have not seen a cockroach in the house. It is a very old building; and I can assure you the above remedy only requires to be persevered in for three or four nights to completely eradicate the pest. Of course it should be fresh cucumber peel every night."

For Evening Gatherings.

A list of amusing forfeits, which will make the company laugh and not offend the person called upon to pay them, are herewith given:

1. Put a newspaper upon the floor in such a way that two persons can easily stand upon it, and not be able to touch each other with their hands. By putting the paper in the doorway, one half inside and the other half outside of the room, and closing the door over it, the two persons can easily stand upon it, and still be beyond each other's reach.

2. To go out of the room with two legs and come in with six. Not very difficult, if one thinks to bring along a chair on the return.

3. To act the dumb servant. The person who has the forfeit to pay must act out the answers to the questions put by the master of the ceremonies, as "How do you make bread?" "How do you make soup?" etc. This forfeit will cause much merriment, if proper questions are put.

4. Put one hand where the other cannot touch it. One can get out of this difficulty by putting one hand on the elbow of the other arm.

5, Place a pencil on the floor so that one cannot jump over it. May be done by putting it close to the wall of the room.

6. Put a question that no one can answer with a 'no.' This is not hard if one thinks to ask, "What does y-e-s spell?"

7. Push a chair through a finger ring. This forfeit is made by putting the ring on the finger and pushing the chair—any other object will do as well—with the finger.

8. Put yourself through a keyhole. This was a great puzzle to us for a while, but when a piece of paper was taken with the word "yourself" written upon it, and pushed through the hole, it was all clear.

A Word for the Girls.

A great deal has been said and written concerning the rights of farmers' boys, but nothing about the girls. It is a common thing for farmers to pay their sons fair wages for their work; yet the daughters do not receive a dollar from month to month. Why should this difference exist between the farmer's girl and his boy? The former is quite as much entitled to a reward for services as the latter. In truth, the farmer's girl is frequently the more valuable of the two. She is expected in many cases to arise very early, get breakfast, clean up the house and prepare the other meals required through the day, or if not, to at least largly aid in all these household duties. In addition she is looked upon by father, mother and brother to entertain company—to act the hostess at least as a creditable second to the mother, and while she may be the pride of the family, and regarded as sort of a privileged character, yet much is expected from her in ten thousand smaller features of home life. Why, then, should she not be encouraged with at least as much pay as the boy? In addition to that, the farm house should be made as attractive as possible—with a piano, plenty of books, newspapers and pictures; cultivate a taste in the girls for flowers, etc. These features, with a moderate amount of work, should produce a happy and contented home farm life.

Queer Conundrums.

The other day some of us got to talking about that witty old cynic, Dean Swift, when one of the company took advantage of the opening and gave this jeu de mot of his: "Why," asked the Dean, "is it right, by the lex talionis, to pick an artist's pocket?" It was given up, of course, and the answer was, "Because he has pictures." A silence fell about the table round until, one by one, we saw it. Then one thoughtful man observed: "It was impossible to give the answer—because the Dean had contrived to reserve the answer to himself. I could not, for instance, say it is right for me to pick an artist's pocket because he has picked yours." Here is another conundrum, founded upon a pun, which only the propounder can solve? An old man and a young man were standing by a meadow. "Why," asked the young man, "is this clover older than you?" "It is not," replied the other. "It is though," returned the young man, "because it is pasturage." Thereupon an abstracted looking person, who had not followed the line of remark, and who had not understood the illustration, startled us with this irrelevant inquiry: "Why cannot a pantomimist tickle nine Esquimaux?" Give it up! Why, it's because he can gesticulate."

Flies and Bugs

Flies, roaches, ants, bed-bugs, rats mice, gopher chipmunks, cleared out by "Rough on Rats. 15c.

A Talent for Conversation

A talent for conversation has an extraordinary value for common, everyday uses of life. Let any one who has this gift enter in a social circle anywhere. How every one's face brightens at his entrance. How soon he sets all the little wheels in motion, encouraging the timid, calling out ostentatiously the resources of the reserved and shy, subsidizing the facile, and making everybody glad and happy.

To converse well is not to engross the conversation. It is not to do all the talking. It is not necessary to talk with very great brilliancy. A man may talk with such surpassing power and splendor as to awe the rest of the company into silence or excite their envy, and so produce a chill where his aim should be to produce warmth and sunshine. He should seek the art of making others feel quite at home with him, so that no matter how great may be his attainments or reputation, or how small may be theirs, they find it insensibly just as natural and pleasing talking to him as hearing him talk. The talent for conversation, indeed, more than almost anything else in life, requires more tact and discretion. It requires one to have more varied knowledge, and to have it at instant and absolute disposal so that he can use just as much or just as little as the occasion demands. It requires the ability to pass instantly and with ease from the playful to the serious, from books to men, and from the mere phrase of courtesy to the expressions of sentiment and passion.

Well's "Rough on Corns."

Ask for Wells' "Rough on Corns." 15c. Quick, complete, permanent cure. Corns, warts, bunions.

The American School System.

Dr. Fraser, the wise and eloquent Bishop of Manchester, made some well-deserved criticisms on the great fault of the American school system. He declared that his experience in this country had convinced him of the prejudicial effects resulting from the introduction of multifarious subjects; how children quitted school with an almost useless smattering of many subjects, but with complete and accurate knowledge of none. Now that knowledge was advancing so rapidly, it was difficult to fix a limit, but the question would have to be fought out sooner or later, and the earlier it was decided the better. He trusted the education of English boys and girls would be concentrated on a few subjects, and not scattered over many. Thoughtful minds were beginning to inquire whether quality or quantity was best; whether it was preferable that a large surface should be slightly scratched or a smaller surface thoroughly cultivated. He did not desire to see the old curriculum materially changed; and, while admitting that in some respects it had been prudently widened, he feared there was danger of running to extremes by including too many and various subjects in the educational programme.—*New York Tribune*.

The question, "What will Mrs. G. J. say?" was first asked in the comedy "Speed the Plough." In that play Dame Ashfield is constantly anxious on that point. Noah M. Ludlow, of St. Louis, an aged retired actor, tells this story: "Now it so happened that there was living in Nashville Judge Felix Grundy and family, and Mrs. Grundy was a lady that mingled with the best society of that city, and was highly respected; but, being a member of some church that prohibited its members visiting theatres, she was not present on the occasion; so whenever the name was mentioned there was a general laugh throughout the whole audience. This, to the actors, was incomprehensible, until a friend explained the matter to us. Judge Grundy, after Martin Van Buren's election to the Presidency, was made Attorney-general of the United States. The expression, 'What will Mrs. Grundy say?' soon after became familiarly used by newspaper writers and others."

The People's Advocate.

SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1883.

AGENTS.

Levi Cromwell Gen'l Ag't for Phila.
Washington..... { G. B, Anderson.
" ..... { G. W. Renfro.
New Bedford, Mass..... Wm. H. Carney.

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m. B. Folkenhorn, next door to Post Office.

☞Local communications and &c., should reach this office not later than Thursday morning; advertisements not later than Wednesday noon.

☞When ever any of our Subscribers do not receive their paper promptly please promptly notify us in all cases, by postal card.

LOCAL.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Pierre are at Harper's Ferry.

—Mr. R. D. Beckley was in our city this week.

—L. A. Lewis has gone to Tenn. to visit his brother.

—Work on the new Shiloh Baptist Church has been resumed.

—Miss H. C. Hicks, and sister are rusticating at Cambridge, Md..

—Misses Rachel Lee, and Pet Kiger, are summering at Winchester, Va.

—Mr. Lemuel C. Baily, and wife are recuperating at Harper's Ferry, W. Va.

—Miss Mollie Palmer is at Warrenton, and Miss Julia W. Mason, at Middleburg.

—Two or three pleasant rooms for rent at 1509 L St N. N. Choice of floors given.

—Two furnished rooms with bath, and convenient to cars, for rent at 1638, 10th St. N. W.

—Miss Amelia Ringgold is spending a few weeks with her sister Mrs. James Wormley Jr.

—Misses Josie Martin, and Grace Dyson will leave shortly for a week's vacation among the mountains.

☞If Mr. J. E. Bruce will call at our office he will find a letter and other mail matter for him, addressed in our care.

—We are glad to learn of the continued good health of Miss Florence Quonn who is spending the summer at Providence, R. I.

—Dr J. H. Beller the popular druggist has gone to Denver, Colo. where he was called by reason of the illness of Dr. O. B. Small. We trust he may have a propitious journey.

—Miss Mattie E. Pryor arrived home Monday evening, accompanied by her cousin Dr. Henry Guy of Port Republic, Va.. Her health is improved, we are glad to say.

—Mrs. J. F. Johnson and family have left for Cape May where they will spend a few days, from which place they will leave to spend the remainder of the summer at her sisters in Calvert, Co. Md.

—The Bethel school picnic will come off at the Sumner Grove next Tuesday, the thirty first instant. These grounds are admirably adapted to the purposes of a picnic, being well watered with springs, and provided with swings. If the weather be fair there is no reason, there should not be a full attendance.

—Miss Jane Thomas, one of the teachers of the colored schools of Raleigh, N. C. who has visited Oberlin, O. and several other points West, passed through last week, after a few days stay with Miss Evans, of 12th St. *enroute* to Saratoga Springs After remaining a few weeks at this famous summer resort, she purposes to return to her home the latter part of next month.

—Our little bird whose duty consists in flying around for the purpose of catching up bits of matrimonial news, came home with the following: To be married this Fall, Mr. A. Herbert to Mrs. Fannie Scott, Mr. J. H. Butler, of New York to Miss Mintie Martin, Mr. Purdy to Miss Mary Reed, Mr. Logan of Troy, N. Y. to Miss Lou P. Matthews, on or about the 25th of August, Mr. A. H. Gray, to Miss D. L. Lewis, Mr. Geo. W. Parris to, —— Mr. L. A. Lewis to Miss M. G. Hurns. Many happy days!

Decline of Man.

Nervous Weakness, Dyspepsia, Impotence, Sexual Debility, cured by "Wells' Health Renewer." $1.

When old Mrs. Burnsby had finished reading in the morning paper an account of the last fire she turned her spectacles from her eyes to the top of her head and remarked: "If the city firemen would wear the genuine hum-knit stockints, such as we make and wear in the country, they wouldn't be a bustin' of their hose at every fire."

Religion is the right action of the faculties of the human mind. Every man is religious if he but feel and do the right. An actor on the stage is as religious, if there is a conscience within him, as he would be if praying his prayers; a sailor on shipboard, if he do his duty, as the preacher in the pulpit.

MINGLE, MINGLE, MINGLE!

How absorption is going on in the West.

"Eskiam" who has recently spent several months at the West thus writes in a letter to a friend resident of this city. "No single fact impressed me more during my sojourn in one of the largest cities of the West regarding the Northern Negro, than that of his desire to lose his real identity. To this desire every other thought is subordinate. Instead of engaging in business for himself, unlike the Negro at the South, he seeks to do business for the white merchants. Particularly is this true of the youth who graduate yearly from institutions of learning. To a considerable degree the light complexioned and mulatto Negro have their desire gratified while their dark-skinned brothers content themselves in occupying the box of a barouche and the service girl of the house, while the mulatto as clerk book keeper, charges d'affaires of Mammoth hotels and restaurants, messengers in banks mercantile houses and rail road offices, are on the edge of their mission in destroying the prejudice against color.

"The South since the war has furnished no small number of a class, quite numerous at the West, who entirely ignore their race and pass themselves, as they are in color, for white, and are thus enabled to insinuate themselves into the social society of the whites of good standing. In one city I found several families from Georgia and Virginia occupying a prominence in society and in business that a foreigner could not if he tried to. To a Southerner there's no great difficulty in detecting and distinguishing the pure white person from one of mixed blood. There's a certain feature that is never lost by the admixture of the blood, but which requires constant contact and a personal knowledge to enable one to detect.

"I visited a school in the Queen City, where, by the way, Negro schools are yet maintained in deference to the wishes of a class of Negroes who think more of a dozen Negro teachers than of the advantages to be gained by the Negro youth in attending mixed schools. There were 50 children in the room out of which number I counted 12 rightfully belonging to the Negro race, that is who have Negro blood in no very small quanity coursing their veins. The next day after my visit I spoke to the member of the school board, who invited me to visit the school, about the 12 pupils. "O, said he, his face wreathing in smiles" dots nothing, plenty of em in all de schools," and, as an assurance of their right, he reminded me that before the war the law allowed the offspring of a mulatto and a white person the same rights as those of unmixed blood.

"I found two mulattoes, one from Georgia, the other from Mississippi, occupying very important government positions as white men. The presence of the Italian and Jew aids very much the light-colored Negro to pass for a dark colored white man. It's no uncommon thing for a Chinese, Italian or a Jew to marry a pretty mulatto girl who generally, unlike her Southern sister, sees nothing in a black man to admire. I was fortunate in obtaining information about this particular matter, in forming the acquaintance of many old inhabitants who would not talk to their neighbors upon the subject with the same freedom with which they talked to me. Very many of the leading men at the West have Negro blood in the younger portion of their family. In Indiana one of the leading democratic statesman wife's mother is a genuine mulatto and this fact is not unknown to many of his more intimate friends, who admire the swarthy complexion and long curling tresses of his wife.

"There is a large class of people in the South and they are gradually going West the part they are to take in the approaching revolution on account of their beauty and grace may be for the benefit of the entire race. Let us hope so any way."

Dont Fail To Go!

The Washington Cadet corps open their Encampment at the Van Ness Gardens on Tuesday, next to continue until the Friday night following

To this, the second in age of the Military organizations composed of our people in this District more than co any other, have the people of our community been indebted for a class of entertainments ranging from a quiet social "hop" at the Armory up to the finest classical concerts with Madame Selika, Mrs. Nellie Brown Mitchell and the cream of our own celebrated vocalists.

At each and all, whether concert, hop, picnic, excursion, fair, or whatsoever, it has been noted that there has been an absence of all disorder, and of disorderly and disreputable people that is so truly surprising. An organization that could take so large an excursion party to Richmond and return them without a single thing to mar the enjoyment of any one, as the Cadets recently did, needs no higer testimonal.

Let the community show their appreciation by their patronage. The dress parades every evening at seven o'clock, will give matter of interest to even the more settled members of families to find enjoyment amid the cool shade of the beautiful gardens.

Saratoga.

We have had rain every second day this season and cold according. The races began Saturday 21., The season appears late, but I am told to "wait until the clouds roll by.

The Clarendon B. B. Club is booming principally from D. C. and the management of Mr. S K. Governs.

Mr. Ben E. Williams has charge of the torsorial parlors at the Columbia Hotel.

Broughton Hotel is quite popular here, its owner is J. C. Broughton of Brooklyn. Among its arrivals are Mr Frank Hart the pedestrian, who is identified with the Leonatus B. B. Club

Rumor tells me that Mad. Smallwood of St Augustine Choir fame is to appear here about August in a Dress Concert; we Washingtonions hail this with great anticipations!

The Saratoga Historical and Literary Asso elected the folloing officers: H. Mc.Nonghton, Pres, E. B. Brown [formerly of Wayland Seminary] Vice, J. G. Price Recording, Ex[Cadet C. A. Minnie Coresponding Secretaries and H. A. Wayland Treasurer.

Barrels from Wood Pulp.

Yankee ingenuity has succeeded in making very perfect barrels from wood pulp, and thus struck a heavy blow at the coopers trade. The process is thus described:

The body of the barrel is all made in one piece, of coarse wood pulp. The pressure to which it is subjected is 400 tons. The heads are made of one piece in the same way, and when put together the barrels are exceedingly light, strong, and satisfactory every way. There are two kinds-one for fruit, flour, and other dry substances; the other for oil, lard, and liquids of all kinds. A flour barrel made in this way and filled, can be dropped from a wagon to the pavement without injury. Fruit packed in these receptacles keeps longer than when put up the usual way, being dry and excluded from the air. The barrels for liquid substances are made by subjecting the first form to a simple process, and oil can be kept in them without leakage. The saving in cost is abont fifty per cent.

MIXED METAPHORS.—We owe to a German author a fresh collection of mixed metaphors which far exceed in interesting variety and derangement of beauty anything heretofore perpetrated. One of the performers introduced upon his stage says delightfully, "We will burn our ships, and with every sail unfurled, steer boldly out into the ocean of freedom." This was by an inspired democrat; but a tory was quite as original who "orated" that "the chariot of the revolution is rolling along, and gnashing its teeth as it rolls." Even some literary men "cannot open their mouth without putting their foot into it," an example of which was the criticism of a lyrical writer who exclaimed, "Out of the dark regions of philosophic problems the poet suddenly lets swarms of songs divo up, carrying far-flashing pearls of thought in their beaks." But the most palpable hit ever made was that of the soldier up early in the morning who "seized the stream of time by the forelock."

EXPENSE OF RAILROAD CARS.—The following figures are given regarding the cost of car building by one of the leading firms engaged in this branch of manufacture. The average price of the box cars is from $400 to $450, while in 1872 they were as high as $1,200. A milk car costs about $100 more. A baggage-car truck and a passenger-car truck are of about the same expense. The price of a car varies from $2,000 to $2,500. The cheapest style of Wagner's drawing-room cars may be made for $8,000; the usual price being $12,000. This includes all the furnishing. The cheaper drawing-room cars, four wheels, are made for $10,000, while ordinary mail cars cost from $2,000 to $3,000; distributing cars are more expensive. Cars for the New York Elevated Road cost from $2,500 to $3,000. The ordinary passenger cars cost $4,200; the last built for the Hudson River Road cost $5,400, which included a heater and some extra fixtures. Small cars for carrying ore cost $200.

OUR BODIES AFTER DEATH.—Within a very near approach to truth, the human family inhabiting the earth has been estimated at 1,000,000,000; the annual loss by death is 18,000,000. Now the weight of the animal matter of this immense body cast into the grave is no less than 634,000 tons, and its decomposition produces 9,000,000,000,000, cubic feet of matter. The vegetable productions of the earth clear away from the earth the gases thus generated, decomposing and assimilating them for their own increase. This circle of changes has been going on ever since man became an occupier of the earth. He feeds on the lower animals and on the seeds of plants, which in due time becomes a part of himself. The lower animals feed upon the herbs and grass, which in their turn, become the animal, then, by its death, again pass into the atmosphere, and are ready once more to be assimilated by plants, the earth or bone substance remaintng where it is deposited.

The most interesting feature of school work is composition writing. Interesting above all others to the children, and easier than anything else for the teacher. We have no reference to that class of compositions which is so ill taught everywhere outside of the printer's office, but to those little billet-doux which pass so often from one seat to another in school, in spite of teacher, frowns, and prohibitions. School life would lose half its charms if there could be no notes passed. Some teachers comfort themselves with the idea that their room is free from note writing; but the passed book, the dropped paper and the telegraph under the seat, all show how easy it is to be mistaken. The tighter we draw the rules the sweeter are the notes—and they go all the same.

Recently, a very modest young Boston lady who wanted a pair of garters addressed the shopman thus: "It is my desire to obtain a pair of circular elastic appendages capable of being contracted or expanded by means of oscillating burnished steel appliances that sparkle like particles of gold leaf set with Alaska diamonds, and which are utilized for retaining in proper position the habliments of the lower extremities, which innate delicacy forbids me to mentien."

Farmers should remember that frozen meat will not absorb salt. Before either frozen beef or pork is put in a barrel for salting, it should be thawed out.

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Mark Twain's "Innocents Abroad."

Elisha Bliss, Jr., late President of the American Publishing Company, Hartford, was the first publisher that gave favorable consideration to Mark Twain,s "Innocents Abroad," and caused it to be issued. Notwithstanding the rollicking satire, the laughter-provoking character and the obviously popular elements of the "Innocents," its author had the greatest difficulty in getting it before the public. He had gained considerable reputation as a humorist by his little volume containing the "Jumping Frog" and other sketches, before setting out on his travels in the Quaker City, and after he had returned and prepared his copy, he had naturally very little doubt of its prompt acceptance. He was doomed to continued and bitter disappointment. He offered the manuscript to one publisher after another in New York, but not one would take the risk of putting it in book form. Then he sent it to Boston, with the same result, and finally to Philadelphia, only to be again rebuffed. By this time he was, as may be inferred in no amiable mood. He confessed that his literary vanity had been sorely wounded, and he was so dissatisfied with his work that he was ready to throw it into the fire. Having offered it to the leading publishers of three of the principal cities in the Union to no purpose, it was not strange that he was troubled and hurt. While in this irritated, self-disgusted mood, he met the late Albert D. Richardson, to whom he handed the manuscript to see if it was so irredeemably bad. Richardson pronounced it very clever, full of the extravagant drollery which the American people relish, and expressed his astonishment that any publisher of intelligence and experience should have declined it. "You can't be any more astonished than I am," remarked Clemens dryly. "Those publishers have astonished as much conceit out of me as a long siege of sea sickness." Richardson, who had published several books through the American Company, said that he was going to Hartford, that he would take the manuscript with him, and he was sure that the company would be glad to take it. He put it into the hands of Bliss, then Secretary, who was immensely pleased with it. But some of the other officers and the Directors were adverse, and made so many objections that he finally declared that he would publish it on his own personal account. They came round when they saw he was entirely in earnest, and afterward pretended they favored the book from the start. The extraordinary success of the "Innocents Abroad" is well known. The sale to date, including pirated editions, is said to have reached 200,000 copies. The American Company probably cleared from $60,000 to $70,000 by its publication. *Boston Transcript.*

Future of the Balloon.

Professor King says: "The balloon is condemned by many, and justly so because there are those who claim for it impossibilities. It can only be used and valued for what it is worth to science. It will never be used as a carrier in the strict sense, because that is impracticable; but for scientific research it is the only means we have of studying the higher regions and learning about the upper currents—about the formation of rain and snow and the action of storms. It is the only thing by which we can reach a point in the heavens clear of the earth; and for these purposes it is invaluable. The day will never come when they will be made to navigate the air against the currents. That can only be done by flying machines having momentum, which a balloon is without. You cannot throw a tuft of cotton against the wind, for the reason that it has no resistance. The balloon's mission is scientific in several ways. You know in case of war it has been very useful in escaping from besieged cities, like Paris, for instance, and for military operations, is the only way you have of looking into the enemies' fortifications with impunity. It is also valuable for looking down into deep water. I had an offer made to me once to float over Lake Erie and search for a steamer that had sunh in a storm. From a balloon you can look down to the bottom of very deep water, because you are away far enough to overcome the reflection of the sky.

I have not the least doubt that the air will be navigated by a flying-machine, but it will have to fly better than a bird flies, the same as a ship, and than a fish; that is, the ship will carry a thousand passengers and a heavy cargo, and go through the water very swiftly, while a fish has all it can do to take care of itself. The flying-machine will be propelled by some great force—it may be nitro glycerine, it may be with gun-powder, and it may be something else that will give it momentum; but whatever it is, it will be light and compact, so that a handful of it, so to speak, will last a whole day. A base-ball travels when hit by a bat, and, if there should be a fly on its surface, it would carry its passenger. You know how nicely a piece of card-board can be shied through the air. The flying-machine will operate on something like the same principle, but balloons will never be used for the purpose, being, as I said before, without momentum."

Moderation in Church-going.

The most marked change in the observance of Sunday in America, says the Rev. Russell Bellows, is the gradual falling off from the Puritan habit of attending church twice a day. The morning worship goes on very much as usual, but the rest of the day is fast losing its established religious character. This falling off is not, in my judgment, necessarily an evil. It is an evil, I thoroughly believe, for any one to separate himself from the influence of religious institutions and religious teachings. The church has its place in human nature. God put it there, and I am not so fearful as some of the evils that will come from the diminished time spent in church In fact, I am inclined to think that good has come out of more moderation in church-going. To the majority excessive church-going is not in accordance with their private judgment, and a little exercise of faith with a holy mind is a hundred times better than too much religious observance, which is simply perfunctory, and which puts an unnatural strain upon the heart. One religious service is something which, I believe, every serious man, woman, and child can be taught to enjoy, if proper means be used to make the service what it ought to be made. This is the tendency of the times; not that there is any less interest in religion. There never was a time when there was more interest in religion than there is to-day. The people are merely falling off from church-going as a habit. If this is a question of going to church two or three times on Sunday, I believe once is better than either twice or three times.

A Mississippi farmer dashes cold water into the ears of choking cattle. This causes the animal to shake its head violently, and the muscular action dislodges the obstruction.

The Esquimaux.

Ethnologists have pointed out that few so-called barbarous peoples have attained a higher stage of advancement than the Esquimaux. Even the comparatively civilized inhabitants of Mexico never constructed arched vaults of stone, as these Arctic dwellers have done. The Esquimaux traveled on sledges long before any other inhabitants of the American continent used means of conveyance, and they harnessed dogs to them as draught animals when even the ancient Incas of Peru had never used animals except beasts of burden. This they did while they themselves were in the stone age. They are inventive and highly ingenious. No modern boat builder can compete with them in constructing light boats for rough water. No modern oarsmen dreams of such feats in the management of boats as they constantly perform. No fur dresser can improve a job on their methods of preparing furs. They are mighty hunters. They invent weapons and means of making them from bones and ivory in a land where wood is often as rare as gold. They are skillful carvers, as their children's toys fashioned from walrus teeth have abundantly shown. They build ice huts and know how to warm them with train-oil lamps. Where materials are obtainable, they have constructed wooden houses and furnished them in a manner indicating ideas of things far beyond the bare necessaries of life which the instinct of the savage leads him to provide. They not only use furniture and bedding, but window lights of fine transparent sealskin.

Besides all this, they are faithful and peaceable. Hall, in his "Life With the Esquimaux," describes them as the "best hearted people on the face of the earth." Nor are their attainments merely in the direction of mechanical skill. Another authority highly praises their intelligence, and says that they quickly learn the games of dominoes, draughts or even chess. Peschel, in his admirable work, "The Races of Man," from which I have taken many of the preceding facts, dwells on their map-making ability. "Sir Edward Parry," he says, "was indebted to a remarkable Esquimau woman, Iliguik, for a map which led to the discovery of the Fury and Hecla Straits." Hall speaks of copies which he made of two Esquimau maps, "which could scarcely have been drawn more true to nature by Europeans." Add to all this the records of such guides as Esquimau Hans, who accompanied Lieutenant Kane, and Esquimau Joe, who rendered such splendid service to the shipwrecked crew of the Polaris during their terrible voyage on the ice-floe, and it can scarcely be questioned that the Esquimaux race possesses capabilities which render its development by education a mere posibility. This becomes even more apparent when we remember that we have undertaken the task of educating and civilizing the Indian, who has little or no ingenuity, who detests fixed dwellings and the restraints of even semi-civilized life, and who is instinctively a savage pure and simple; and that, furthermore, we are face to face with the great problem of educating a vast negro population hitherto kept ignorant by law and sprung from a race which, in its natural state is still the lowest in the human scale. If we can drive the Indian to school and not despair of making a useful citizen out of him; if we can educate the former slaves, and deem it wise and expedient to make them soverign voters, we do so; if we invite the Chinese and the Japanese here and teach them Western civilization in our colleges, certainly there is no good reason why we cannot safely undertake the education of at least enough Esquimax to enable them to learn the objects of the quest for the Pole, the conditions under which science asserts the task can best be attempted, and what to look for when the goal is reached. The valuable lives have been sacrificed of men who were unfitted, physically, to cope with the hardships of an Arctic winter as so many visitors from another world, and vast sums of money have been expended not only in searches for the Pole but in searches for the lost searchers. We have just learned that it is barely possible for a white man "to live off of the country" with the help of the Esquimaux. Now the Esquimaux themselves not only exist in this desert, but contrive to do so probably according to their ideas of comfort, and besides this they have peopled regions in which, to quote Peschel once more, "nature seems armed with all the horrors of one of the circles of Dante's hell." These are the people to do the work. It is for us to show them how to do it.

To reduce this idea to practical shape needs the knowledge and experience of men who have closely studied the subject of the Arctic regions and the dwellers therein—perhaps of those who have taken part in the expeditions of the past. It would seem necessary, however, to establish some kind of a school at an intermediate point, where the climate is such that Esquimaux could exist without being rendered physically unfit for the resumption of their former mode of life in high latitudes and where white men could live without material discomfort. The next Arctic expedition sent out might be charged with the work of inducing Esquimaux, young men to go to this place. Once there, those showing the most intelligence might be specially taught with reference to the end in view; the others would be instructed sufficiently if an interest could be awakened in them. Eventually they should be returned to their people and left to their own devices. It certainly seems reasonable to suppose that before many Esquimaux were thus sent back news would be heard from them; and so, perhaps, in this way might be solved the problem which thus far has vanquished the energy and skill of the civilized world.

The expense of such an experiment might not be so great as of fitting out a well equipped exploring expedition. It seems worth consideration, if not trial, for its results even if not the achievement of the Pole, might at least be the implanting of the seeds of knowledge amid a race little cared for now, but chiefly thus because of the icy barrier which nature has interposed between it and the sympathy and brotherhood of civilized man.

The New York *Herald* has compiled a census-table giving the population of all states in the Union, the approximate results being 49,302,144. The population of six territories, 563,998, brings the total up to 49,865,142; and the population of four territories not in the table will make the grand total 50,000,000, or an increase of 11,700,000, or something more than thirty per cent. since the census of 1870.

There is no practice more objectionable than to go to bed closely wrapped up in the dust and dirt that accumulate on the surface of the body during the day; nor is there anything more conducive to sound sleep than a tepid douche just before going to bed. Many bad sleepers become the best of sleepers by the adoption of this simple rule.

How Artemus Ward Once Lectured.

There are yet living in Pottsville, Pa., several gentlemen who never hear the name of Artemus Ward without a smiling recollection of a pleasant night spent with that droll genius. In the winter of one of the earlier years of the war, Artemus Ward was advertised to deliver his famous lecture on the Mormons in the Town Hall at Pottsville. Much curiosity was excited by the announcement of his coming, and there was every reason to expect that the hall would be crowded on the evening of the lecture. But one of the fiercest snow-storms that ever visited the town raged without intermission all day, and the night was wildly stormy when the lecturer was driven to the hall.

He found waiting for him only five men, who had defied the storm. Advancing to the stage, and beckoning with the finger as if to a single individual, Artemus said, in an ordinary conversational tone: "Come up closer." Not knowing precisely what to do, the audience of five compromised with their embarassment by doing nothing Artemus changed his tone to that used by one who wishes to coax, and said:

"Please come up closer and be sociable; I want to speak to you about a little matter I have thought of."

Having succeeded in getting his audience to move up near to the stage, the humorist said:

"I move that we do not have any lecture here this evening, and I propose instead that we adjourn to the restaurant beneath and have a good time."

He then put the motion, voted on it himself declared it carried, and, to give no opportunity for an appeal from the chair, at once led the way to the restaurant. There he introduced himself to his intended auditors, and spent several hours in their company, richly compensating them for disappointment in the matter of the lecture by the wit and humor of the stories and anecdotes without number that he told. And that is how Artemus Ward lectured in Pottsville.—*Cleveland Plain Dealer.*

A Little Latin.

An effort is being made to induce doctors to stop writing their prescriptions in Latin and use United States language. So many inoffensive sick people have been killed by druggists putting up lobelia and other dangerous drugs in place of some mild and gentle purgative, which the system requires, on a Latin prescription of an M. D. physician, that a society at the East threatens to take the law into their own hands and put a stop to it. As a usual thing, the physician who graduates with high honors at some high-toned morgue, does not know any more about the common English branches than is good for him, and his handwriting is the merest goose tracks—a sort of delerium tremens on paper. Now, when you come to put such writing as that into Latin, to be read by a sleepy prescription clerk who has been routed out of bed at midnight in his shirt sleeves, there can only be one result. The patient will be worse next day. A sleepy drug clerk is only human; and when he strikes one of those ingredients in the prescription where it tells him to put up three saw-teeth of podophyllum, and the word looks more like pennyroyal than it does like podophyllum, and more like peppermint than either one of them, he is liable to trust a good deal to luck and put in that which is the least injurious. No drug clerk cares to lose a good position by not being able to read a stroke of lightning; and the result is he puts up something, and then charges enough more to make up for what he doesn't know. There are forty-eight millions of people in this country, whose lives, to a greater or less extent, rest on prescription clerks; and the eastern society who have flung their banner to the breeze and sounded the death of the dead langnages, will be embalmed in the hearts of a grateful posterity. They are doing a noble work. Dead languages are well enough for dead people; but they are eminently out of place in this age of animated things Of course the lopping off of the excrescence will bring doctors down to a level with ordinary mortals, and they will have to take their chances.—*Peck's Sun*

Blunders and Absurdities in Art.

In looking over some collections of old pictures, it is surprising what extraordinary anachronisms, blunders, and absurdities are often discoverable.

In the gallery of the convent of Jesuits at Lisbon, there is a picture representing Adam in Paradise, dressed in blue breeches with silver buckles, and Eve with a striped petticoat. In the distance appears a procession of Capuchin monks bearing the cross.

In a country church in Holland there is a painting representing the sacrifice of Isaac, in which the painter has depicted Abraham with a blunder-buss in his hand, ready to shoot his son. A similar edifice in Spain has a picture of the same incident, in which the patriarch is armed with a pistol.

At Windsor there is a painting by Antonio Verrio, in which the artist has introduced the portraits of Sir Godfrey Kneller, and May, the surveyor of the works of that period, all in long periwigs, as spectators of Christ healing the sick.

A painter of Toledo, having to represent the three wise men of the East coming to worship on the nativity of Christ, depicted three Arabian or Indian kings, two of them white and one black, and all of them in the posture of kneeling. The position of the legs of each figure not being very distinct, he inadvertently painted three black feet for the negro king, and three also between the two white kings; and he did not discover his error until the picture was hung up in the cathedral.

In another picture of the Adoration of the Magi, which was in the Houghton Hall collection, the painter, Brughel, had introduced a multitude of little figures, finished off with true Dutch exactitude, but one was accoutred in boots and spurs, and another was handing in, as a present, a little model of a Dutch ship.

The same collection contained a painting of the stoning of Stephen the martyr, by Le Sœur, in which the saint was attired in the habit of a Roman Catholic priest at high mass.

A picture by Rubens in the Luxembourg, represents the Virgin Mary in council, with two cardinals and the god Mercury assisting in her deliberations.

As a steamboat was about to start from Cincinnati, one day, a young man came on board, leading a blushing damsel by the hand, and approaching the polite clerk, said, in a suppressed voice:

"I say, me and my wife has jest got married, and I'm looking for accomodations."

"Looking for a berth?" hastily inquired the clerk, passing tickets to another passenger.

"A birth! thunder and lightning, no!" gasped the astonished man; "we hain't but just got married—we want a place to sleep all night, you know."

How to Buy a Horse.

Look at him standing quietly in his stable to see that he has no trick like that of putting one hind foot over the other. In doing this he often cuts the fore part of his hind foot with the sharp calks of his shoe, thus making him lame perhaps for months. When brought out, do not allow him to be jockeyed in his paces. Take your stand on one side of the road, and let him walk naturally and quietly by; then turn and walk by, showing his other side. Now, look at his eyes, and make a motion with your hand toward them, as if you intended to strike. If he winks quickly or draws the head back, the vision may be depended on generally as good, and no blindness in him. The eyes should be moderately prominent. Sunken eyes are apt to get blind as the horse grows old, and often characterizes a vicious temper. Examine the teeth, and see that they are sound, strongly set and even. Look at his fore legs and notice if he has strong knee joints, and that they are not sprung. Examine the hind legs closely above and below the hocks for any swellings, and especially for curbs and spavins. Now look at all the pastern joints and see if clear of cuts from interfering, or if there are any scars on them in consequence of this. The pasterns should be rather short for a carriage horse and not much sloping. If the latter are long and elastic, they are apt to give out at a hard pull. In a race horse such pasterns are less objectionable. In a heavy draft horse they are unpardonable.

The feet are often passed over, but a thorough examination of these is of the utmost importance. They should be reasonably large, the hoofs clear and tough, free from cracks, not shelly, and well set up at the heels, otherwise they will soon wear down on pavements or hard roads, and the horse becomes foot-sore. If always to be kept in the country to work on a farm or dirt roads, low heels are not so objectionable. Lastly regard the inside of the hoofs, and see that there is a good sized frog to soften the jar to the leg when the foot stamps on the ground.

A pony-built horse is the best for working in harness, while a more rangy-bodied one, with longer legs may be preferred for the saddle, but these should not be so long as to be liable to weakness. The legs from the hocks and knees down, in all horses should be rather short than long.

If the tail lifts hard and stiff, it is usually an evidence of a strong back and quarters. If it lifts quite limber and easily, the reverse is apt to be the case.

As to the age, this is readily told by the teeth till seven years old, unless they are "bishoped." It is usual for jockeys to call a horse eight when he is all the way from ten to twenty; but an adept can give a pretty shrewd guess as to this, for, after ten years the old eyes begin to sink, gray hairs come into the head, and there is a lack of a youthful look and vivacity.

After all there is a great risk in buying a horse even from an owner who is truthfully and honestly disposed to speak of his failings, for in many cases he is really ignorant of what these are, of incipient diseases which may be lurking in the system at the time of the sale. As for the tricks of jockeys in hiding the age, faults, and covering up diseases, they are past finding out; and when they trade with each other, even, the very smartest and most knowing one gets cheated easily by one much more skillful than himself in showing off a horse. It is only after using a horse for months that pretty much all that is in him can be found out, and we have known unexpected faults and unexpected vices to turn up after possessing one for years.—*Rural New Yorker.*

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